

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 16642 161126Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NAS-01 OES-07 L-03 CU-04 CIAE-00  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4540  
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

CONFIDENTIAL MOSCOW 16642

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: TGEN CVIS OEXC US UR CSCE  
SUBJECT: EXIT VISAS FOR LONG-TERM EXCHANGES UNDER SOVIET ACADEMY  
OF SCIENCES PROGRAMS: S&T AGREEMENT (01.00) AND INTER-  
ACADEMY EXCHANGE (21.00)

REFS: (A) MOSCOW 15945 (B) MOSCOW 15566 (C) LENINGRAD 1295  
(D) MOSCOW 16407 (E) MOSCOW 16519

1. IN OUR CONTINUING EFFORTS (REFTELS) TO GET SOVIETS  
TO ISSUE EXIT VISAS TO US LONG-TERM EXCHANGES AS A  
MATTER OF COURSE BEFORE THEIR ARRIVAL IN THE SOVIET UNION,  
WE HAVE APPROACHED OTHER WESTERN EMBASSIES IN MOSCOW  
ADMINISTERING SCIENCE AGREEMENTS WITH THE SOVIETS. FOLLOWING  
INFORMATION SHULD BE USEFUL TO NAS IN THEIR UPCOMING  
NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIET ACADEMY:  
(A) FRENCH HAVE EXIT VISAS FOR ALL EXCHANGEES. EXCHANGEES  
SCHEDULED FOR VISITS OF OVER SIX MONTHS ARE PROVIDED MULTIPLE  
EXIT-REENTRY VISAS (AND HAVE RIGHT TO BRING IN A PERSONAL  
VEHICLE). WE HAVE PROVIDED TO CRAMER, OES, A COPY OF GUIRINGRUD/  
GROMYKO LETTER OF 7 JUNE 1977 SPECIFYING THE FRENCH-SOVIET UNDERSTAND  
ING.  
(B) AUSTRALIANS, SWISS, AND FINNS HAVE HAD SINGLE OPEN EXIT  
VISAS FOR ALL EXCHANGEES? REGARDLESS OF PLANNED PERIOD OF STAY.  
BOTH ENTRY AND EXIT VISAS HAVE BEEN ISSUED FOR FINNS IN HELSINKI,

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 16642 161126Z

WHEREAS OTHERS HAVE RECEIVED EXIT VISAS ON ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW.  
(C) CURRENTLY CANADIAN EXCHANGEES DO NOT OBTAIN  
EXIT VISAS. CANADIANS ARE NEGOTIATING NEW  
AGREEMENT WITH SOVIET ACADEMY IN JANUARY, AND  
CANADIAN EMBASSY IS URGING TOUGH LINE ON EXIT VISA QUESTION.  
(D) BRITISH CULTURAL EXCHANGES RECEIVE EXIT VISAS,  
BUT SCIENCEEXCHANGEES APPARENTLY DO NOT.

2. NAS MIGHT WISH TO CITE IN ADDITION TO LEVIN-STANKEVICH CASE UNDER IREX PROGRAM, FOLLOWING EXAMPLE OF DIFFICULTIES WHICH CAN OBTAIN FOR NAS-SPONSORED EXCHANGES NOT GRANTED EXIT VISAS:  
AMERICAN INTERACADEMY EXCHANGEE FRANK CANNONITO AND FAMILY (WIFE, TWO STEP-DAUGHTERS; ALL CARRYING BRITISH PASSPORTS) ARRIVED MOSCOW EARLY JUNE FOR SIX MONTH VISIT. ALL FOUR HAVE VALID "OPEN" EXIT VASAS, SINCE THEY WERE GIVEN ENTRY-EXIT VISAS BY THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. WHEN THEY TURNED THEIR PASSPORTS IN AT THE MOSCOW OFFICE OF VISAS AND REGISTRATION (OVIR), A STANDARD AND REQUIRED PRACTISE THE PASSPORTS OF THE THREE WOMEN CAME BACK WITHOUT EXIT VISA. WHEN CANNONITO NOTICED THIS AND INQUIRED, HE WAS FIRST TOLD THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO EXIT VISAS, BUT ONE CONTACT LATER TOLD HIM THAT OVIR "MADE A MISTAKE", WHICH WAS UNFORTUNATELY NOT REVERSIBLE. MRS. CANNONITO'S FATHER DIED EARLY MORNING 23 JULY (SATURDAY), AND SHE RECEIVED NOTIFICATION AND URGENT REQUEST TO COME HOME. EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO CONTACT SOVIET ACADEMY WERE FRUITLESS ON 24 JULY, AND MRS. CANNITO, AFTER SPECIAL EFFORTS BY ACADEMY'S INTERNATIONAL OFFICE, RECEIVED EXIT VISA MONDAY AFTERNOON, 25 JULY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 16642 161126Z

3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING NAS'S PLANS FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH ACADEMY (REF A) AS WELL AS STATUS ON AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY AND DEPARTMENT-SCST APPROACH SUGGESTED PAR 3 OF REF B. IN THIS REGARD, WE UNDERSTAND THAT GANLEY WILL BE MEETING WITH AYKAZYAN ON NOVEMBER 18 AND SUGGEST THAT GANLEY BRING UP FOREGOING INCLUDING NOTE THAT NEW S&T REGULATIONS MAKE EXECUTIVE AGENTS RESPONSIBLE TO FACILITATE EXIT OF LONG-TERM EXCHANGES.

4. IN A MOVE WHICH PROBABLY SHOWS HOW FORTHCOMING SOVIETS WILL BE UNLESS WE CONTINUE THE PRESSURE, MFA HAS STATED (REF D) THAT WE HAVE "NO BASIS" FOR PROTEST ON LEVIN-STANKEVICH CASE REF C.

5. IN VIEW OF THE BEARING ON UPCOMING BILATERAL SCIENCE, CULTURAL AND CONSULAR NEGOTIATION, WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S CURRENT THINKING ON THIS SUBJECT. TOON

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